

## Article - General Provisions

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§5–202.

- (a) (1) The Ethics Commission consists of five members.
- (2) The Governor shall appoint:
  - (i) with the advice and consent of the Senate, three members, at least one of whom shall be a member of the principal political party of which the Governor is not a member;
  - (ii) one member nominated by the President of the Senate; and
  - (iii) one member nominated by the Speaker of the House.
- (3) The Governor may reject a nominee of the President or of the Speaker only for cause.
- (4) If the Governor rejects a nominee under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the appropriate presiding officer shall nominate another individual.
- (5) A vacancy shall be filled in a manner consistent with this subsection.
- (b) A member of the Ethics Commission may not:
  - (1) hold elected or appointed office in, be an employee of, or be a candidate for office in:
    - (i) the federal government;
    - (ii) the State government;
    - (iii) a municipal corporation, county, or multicounty agency of the State; or
    - (iv) a political party; or
  - (2) be a regulated lobbyist.

(c) Before taking office, each appointee to the Ethics Commission shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland Constitution.

(d) (1) The term of a member is 5 years.

(2) The terms of members are staggered as required by the terms in effect for members of the Ethics Commission on October 1, 2013.

(3) A member may serve no more than two consecutive 5-year terms.

(4) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves for the rest of the term.

(5) At the end of a term, a member may continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(e) (1) The Governor may remove a member for:

(i) neglect of duty;

(ii) misconduct in office;

(iii) a disability that makes the member unable to discharge the powers and duties of office; or

(iv) a violation of this title.

(2) Before removing a member, the Governor shall give the member:

(i) written notice of the charges; and

(ii) an opportunity to answer the charges.

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